

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of Roseville Telephone Company
(U 1015 C) to review its New Regulatory
Framework.

Application 99-03-025
(Filed March 8, 1999)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO ADJUST PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

On June 30, 2004, SureWest Telephone Company¹ (SureWest) and the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) jointly filed a motion for an expedited order adjusting the procedural schedule in the above-titled proceeding. SureWest and ORA advise that they have entered into substantive settlement negotiations, which they will have to immediately put aside so that SureWest can timely file its rebuttal testimony on July 9, 2004. They request that the procedural schedule be pushed back three weeks so that SureWest can file its rebuttal testimony on July 30, and evidentiary hearings, if still needed, could be held on or around August 10-12, 2004.

By conference calls on July 1 and 2, SureWest, ORA, and the undersigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) discussed how the schedule might be modified by less than three weeks so that any possible evidentiary hearings could take place during the last week of July. On July 2, SureWest and ORA jointly

¹ SureWest Telephone Company was formerly known as Roseville Telephone Company.

proposed that SureWest be permitted to electronically serve its rebuttal testimony on Friday, July 23, 2004. Evidentiary hearings would take place on July 29 and 30, and continue on August 2, 2004, if necessary. Likewise, the briefing schedule post- hearing would be adjusted accordingly.² In the joint motion, SureWest and ORA proposed to apprise the ALJ of the status of the settlement discussions by July 16. Under the revised schedule, the two are asked to report on the status by July 19, 2004.

Thus, **IT IS RULED** that:

1. In order to facilitate the continuation of recently initiated settlement negotiations between SureWest Telephone Company (SureWest) and the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA), the procedural schedule of the Petition to Modify in the above-titled proceeding is modified as follows: (1) SureWest shall electronically file its rebuttal testimony on July 23, 2004; (2) evidentiary hearings shall be convened on July 29 through July 30, 2004, at the Commission Courtroom, 505 Van Ness Avenue, State Office Building, San Francisco, California, with the possibility of continuation and conclusion on August 2, 2004; and (3) the post-hearing briefing schedule will be similarly adjusted.

² Under the most recent revised schedule, opening briefs were to be due three weeks after the conclusion of the evidentiary hearings and reply briefs were to be due nine days later.

2. SureWest and ORA shall advise the undersigned Administrative Law Judge of the status of the settlement discussions on or before July 19, 2004.

Dated July 6, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JACQUELINE A. REED

Jacqueline A. Reed
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Granting Joint Motion to Adjust Procedural Schedule on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record. In addition, service was also performed by electronic mail.

Dated July 6, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074 or TTY# 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.